

REMARKS

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action dated February 17, 2004, which is an Election/Restriction. The Examiner asserted that the application contains two groups of inventions that are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. The groups provided by the Examiner are as follows:

Group I, claims 10 and 13-20; and

Group II, claims 1-9, 11, 12 and 21.

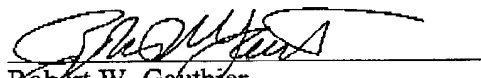
In response, Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group II, claims 1-9, 11, 12 and 21. Applicant respectfully suggests that the Examiner's citing of the "X" references on the International Search Report does not bear on the technical relationship among the groups of inventions. Applicant submits that overcoming the references in a response to a proper action on the merits would serve to show such a relationship, in that both groups of claims relate to an electrolytic cell for scale removal and disinfecting an aqueous medium.

Conclusion

Applicant considers the Response herein to be fully responsive to the referenced Office Action. Based on the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 617-832-1175.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 11, 2004


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